

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7-15 and 17-27 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting from claims 1-25 of U.S. Patent No. 6,523,496. Executed Terminal Disclaimers are enclosed. It is respectfully understood that these Terminal Disclaimers overcome this double patenting rejection. This submission is made without admitting the propriety of the rejection and is done solely in order to serve the statutory function of removing the double patenting rejection, and this action raises neither a presumption nor an estoppel with respect to the merits of the double patenting rejection or to the scope and/or proper construction to be given to any claim of any patent to be issued from either the present application or any application or patent related thereto.

Applicants have made an earnest endeavor to place this application into condition for allowance, and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. J. Asbury III", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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RMM:vk

Dated: February 18, 2005